IN THE ABSTRACT:

Please amend the Abstract as follows:

~~The present invention relates to a~~ A negative electrode material for non-aqueous electrolyte secondary batteries, characterized in that the negative electrode material comprises a composite particle including solid phases A and B, the solid phase A being dispersed in the solid phase B, and the ratio (I_A/I_B) of the maximum diffracted X-ray intensity (I_A) attributed to the solid phase A to the maximum diffracted X-ray intensity (I_B) attributed to the solid phase B satisfies $0.001 \leq I_A/I_B \leq 0.1$, in terms of a diffraction line obtained by a wide-angle X-ray diffraction measurement of the composite particle.

~~This negative electrode material is capable of suppressing of pulverization thereof due to repeated cycles. Further, the use of this negative electrode material allows production of a non-aqueous electrolyte secondary battery having a high capacity and an excellent cycle life characteristic.~~